

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 EUR-08 L-02 PM-03 SP-02

NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 /050 W

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R 091146Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4269

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T BEIRUT 5956

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, US

SUBJECT: LEBANESE ATTENDANCE GENEVA CONFERENCE

REF: A: EMBTEL 5886 (NOTAL); B: EMBTEL 4697 (NOTAL);

C: EMBTEL 4391 (NOTAL)

1. FOREIGN MINISTER TAQLA SUMMONED ME THIS MORNING MAY 9, TO FOREIGN OFFICE AND GAVE ME AIDE MEMOIRE DATED MAY 9, 1975 WHICH IN TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE REFERRING TO THE STATEMENT MADE IN THE MEMORANDUM GIVEN BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATES, MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 23, 1973 END QUOTE (WE CANNOT GIVE A PRECISE REFERENCE TO THE TELEGRAM TRANSMITTING THIS AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE DEPARTMENT BUT IT IS AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR IT WAS THE FIRST ENCLOSURE TO A MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED ON NOVEMBER 2, 1973 BY NEA/ARN DIRECTOR KORN TO THE THEN NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO IN PREPARATION FOR THE LATTER'S VISIT TO LEBANON, QUOTE LEBANON EXPRESSES ITS GREAT INTEREST IN BEING INVITED TO THE CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA -- OR ELSEWHERE -- PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 338 AND IN PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS CONFERENCE RELATING TO THE PALESTINIAN MATTER AND THE ENSUING ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICTS AND WHOSE OBJECTIVE WILL BE THE INSTITUTION OF A JUST AND PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE

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EAST. END QUOTE

2. FOREIGN MINISTER EMPHASIZED THE OVERWHELMING DESIRE OF LEBANON TO BE INVITED TO THE CONFERENCE BUT STATED ONCE AGAIN THAT AS INDICATED IN REFTELS B AND : LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO BOUNDARIES OR ATTENDANT MILITARY MATTERS.

3. I TOLD FONMIN THAT I HAD ALREADY REPORTED TWICE (REFTELS B AND C) WHAT HE HAD TOLD ME BEFORE ON THIS MATTER BUT THAT I WOULD OF COURSE REPORT ONCE AGAIN AND FURNISH THE DEPARTMENT WITH THE TRANSLATION OF HIS AIDE MEMOIRE.

4. TAQLA SAID HE WOULD BE CONVOKING SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND WOULD BE GIVING HIM AN IDENTICAL AIDE MEMOIRE AND TAKING THE SAME LINE WITH HIM. TAQLA CONCLUDED THAT HE CONSIDERED HIS DEMARCHE AS QUASI-OFFICIAL, I.E. NOT TOTALLY FORMAL. I INQUIRED PRECISELY AS TO WHAT HE MEANT AND HE SAID IT WAS A DISCUSSION AMONG FRIENDS BUT HE WANTED THE GOL'S POSITION TO BE KNOWN FORMALLY TO WASHINGTON. HE DID NOT SAY WHETHER PUBLICITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO HIS ACTION BUT I HAVE THE HUNCH THAT IT WILL APPEAR SHORTLY IN THE LEBANESE PRESS.
GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PEACE TALKS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BEIRUT05956
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750163-0630
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750564/aaaacfmj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 A: EMBTEL 5886, 75 (NOTA B: EMBTEL 4697
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEBANESE ATTENDANCE GENEVA CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, LE, US, GENEVA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006